

## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ARAE-00 SY-05 SSO-00 NSCE-00 SCS-03  
SCA-01 DHA-02 L-03 H-01 SAB-01 SS-15 NSC-05 SIL-01  
LAB-04 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 AID-05 PRS-01 USIE-00  
INRE-00 /065 W  
-----112023Z 012844 /44

O R 111935Z FEB 77  
FM AMEMBASSY PANAMA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 705  
INFO PANCANAL  
USCINCSO

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E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: CASC, PFOR, PN (DRUMMOND, WILLIAL)  
SUBJECT: DETENTION AND RELEASE OF WILLIAM DRUMMOND

1. FOLLOWING IS APPROXIMATE CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS OCCURRING  
MORNING OF FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1977, IN CONNECTION WITH  
DETENTION AND RELEASE OF WILLIAM DRUMMOND.

2. DRUMMOND ARRIVED AT TOCUMEN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT AT  
APPROXIMATELY 0830, INTENDING TO BOARD FLIGHT TO US AT 0915.  
AFTER CHECKING IN, DRUMMOND PROCEEDED TO BOARDING AREA.  
MRS. DRUMMOND, WHO ACCOMPANIED HIM TO AIRPORT, NOTICED THAT  
HE HAD NOT BOARDED PLANE AND WAS UNABLE TO DETERMINE HIS  
WHEREABOUTS, BUT OVERHEARD A CONVERSATION INDICATING HE HAD  
BEEN DETAINED BY NATIONAL GUARD. ANOTHER PANCANAL OFFICIAL,  
ALSO AT AIRPORT, SAW DRUMMOND BEING ESCORTED OUT BY TWO MEN,  
ONE OF WHOM HE RECOGNIZED AS CHIEF OF AIRPORT SECURITY. THIS  
OFFICIAL AND MRS. DRUMMOND BOTH INFORMED PANCANAL  
AUTHORITIES OF DRUMMOND'S DETENTION.

3. REMAINING EVENTS KNOWN TO EMBASSY IN SEQUENCE:  
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0940 EMBASSY (DCM) ADVISED OF DRUMMOND'S DETENTION BY CANAL ZONE  
LT. GOV. HUNT. COL. HUNT STATED THAT CANAL ZONE POLICE  
LIAISON WORKING ON MATTER AND EMBASSY ASSISTANCE NOT  
REQUESTED AT MOMENT.

1040 DEPT (BECKER, ARA/PAN) ADVISED OF STATUS BY PHONE.

1040 EMBASSY (TUELLER, CHIEF OF CONSULAR SECTION) REQUESTED BY PANCANAL DEPUTY EXECUTIVE SECRETARY JEFFREY TO MAKE INQUIRIES ON DRUMMOND DETENTION. TUELLER TELEPHONED TOCUMENT AIRPORT SECURITY.

1045 EMBASSY MILGROUP COMMANDER (COL. CORONEOS) TELEPHONED COL. NOREIGA, G-2 (INTELLIGENCE AND SECURITY), NATIONAL GUARD GENERAL STAFF. NORIEGA STATES THAT DRUMMOND NOT UNDER ARREST AND WOULD NOT BE ARRESTED--HE HAD BEEN DETAINED IN CONNECTION WITH ERROR IN FILLING OUT A FORM AND WAS BEING RELEASED.

1045 IMMEDIATELY THEREAFTER, TUELLER TELEPHONES NOREIGA AND IS TOLF APPROXIMATELY SAME THING. NOREIGA SAID DRUMMOND DETAINED FOR QUESTIONING IN ANOTHER MATTER, AND WOULD BE RELEASED THEREAFTER.

1055 DEPT (BECKER) ADVISED OF STATUS BY PHONE.

1110 (APPROXIMATE) EMBASSY LEARNED THAT NOREIGA HAD TELEPHONED CANAL ZONE POLICE CHIEF TO REQUEST THAT CANAL ZONE POLICE OFFICER BE PRESENT AT DRUMMOND'S INTERROGATION--BALBOA DISTRICT POLICE COMMANDER (MAJ. GORDON) SENT. UNCLEAR TO US AT THIS TIME WHETHER THIS CALL CAME PRIOR OR SUBSEQUENT TO NOREIGA CONVERSATIONS WITH CORONEOS AND TUELLER.

1115 AMBASSADOR TELEPHONED AMB. BUNKER.

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1130 AMBASSADOR TELEPHONED PRESIDENT LAKAS.

1140 PRESIDENT LAKAS TELEPHONED AMBASSADOR. UPON CALLING G-2, LAKAS WAS ADVISED THAT DRUMMOND WAS IN CUSTODY WITH GORDON PRESENT, AND THAT IF LAKAS SO DESIRED, DRUMMOND COULD BE RELEASED TO GORDON. LAKAS SAID HE HAD REQUESTED THAT THIS BE DONE AT ONCE.

1210 DCM TALKING ON TELEPHONE TO MRS. DRUMMOND WHEN DRUMMOND ARRIVED AT HIS HOME IN CANAL ZONE. DVM SPOKE WITH DRUMMOND.

1220 DEPT (BECKER) ADVISED DRUMMOND AT LIBERTY.

4. IN CONVERSATION WITH DCM, DRUMMOND STATED THAT HE WAS NOT ADVISED BY G-2 OFFICIALS OF REASON FOR HIS DETENTION. HE WAS INTERROGATED BY ATTORNEY GENERAL MIRANDA PERSONALLY. HE STATED HE WAS QUESTIONED, INTER ALIA, ABOUT OCTOBER 1976 BOMBING INCIDENTS IN CANAL ZONE (ONE OF WHICH OCCURRED JUST OUTSIDE HIS

HOME).

5. IN A RELATED DEVELOPMENT, EMBASSY LABOR OFFICER RECEIVED A TELEPHONE CALL ABOUT 1200 FROM ALFRED GRAHAM, PRESIDENT OF CANAL ZONE CENTRAL LABOR UNION-METAL TRADES COUNCIL. GRAHAM NOTED THAT DRUMMOND WAS LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL OF CLU-MTC, AND HAD BEEN PREPARING TO TRAVEL TO US ON UNION BUSINESS. TORRIJOS HAD MET WITH CANAL ZONE LABOR LEADERS LAST MONDAY, AND HAD FORMED A COMMISSION FOR DIALOG WITH THEM. GRAHAM SAID THAT WHILE CLU-MTC HAD BEEN PREPARED TO LISTEN TO WHATEVER GOP OFFICIALS MIGHT HAVE TO SAY TO THEM, HE WANTED EMBASSY TO KNOW--AND TO BE SURE THAT INTERESTED GOP OFFICIALS KNEW--THAT IF DRUMMOND OR ANY OTHER CANAL ZONE LABOR LEADER WERE DETAINED OR HARASSED IN THIS FASHION AGAIN, CLU-MTC WOULD REFUSE TO HAVE ANYTHING FURTHER TO DO WITH TORRIJOS OR GOP OFFICIALS.

6. FOREGOING PREPARED BASED UPON INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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EMBASSY AS OF 1330 FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 11. IF FURTHER INFORMATION REVEALS ADDITIONAL RELEVANT DETAIL OR ALTERS ANY OF FOREGOING, ANOTHER REPORT WILL FOLLOW.  
JORDEN

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
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**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Subject:** DETENTION AND RELEASE OF WILLIAM DRUMMOND  
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**Review Markings:**  
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